

Claim 10, line 1, change "Window" to --A window--;

Line 2, change "reverser" to --reversing-- and change "at the end" to --at end--.

Claim 11, line 1, change "Window" to --A window--;

Line 2, change ", preferably both" to --of said-- and change "are designed" to --is formed--.

Claim 12, line 1, change "Window" to --A window--;

Line 2, change "slide elements" to --actuators--.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Official Action dated August 02, 2000 and this Amendment is intended to be fully responsive to the Action.

The Examiner objected to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 17, 2000 was objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3) because that IDS failed to specifically include a concise statement of the relevance of non-English reference DE 2323784. Applicant has concurrently filed a new IDS including a concise statement of the relevance of DE 2323784 as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3).

The drawings were objected to because the figures do not clear show the crossbar 14 (two crossbars 14 shown in Figure 1). It is noted that only one crossbar 14 is present in this invention. Original figure 1 merely shows the same crossbar 14 in two different positions. In addition, the Examiner objected to the use of the same reference numeral to denote different components. Lastly, the drawings were objected to for failing to illustrate the subject matter of claim 5.

Applicant has submitted a separate Letter to the Draftsperson requesting approval of several drawing correction intended to overcome these objections. Specifically, Figure 1 has been corrected (replaced) to show the crossbar 14 in dotted lines at the upper position. Figure 2 has been corrected to illustrate the limitations of original claim 5. In addition, Figures 2 and 3 have been amended to denote the reference numerals of Figure 2 with a single prime or dash (e.g., 10') and the reference numerals of Figure 3 with a double prime or dash (e.g., 10''). The corresponding reference numerals in the specification have been amended accordingly. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 1-3, 6, 7 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by German Patent Publication No. 796 54 851. Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over German '851 in view of Kimura et al. '443. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over German '851. These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the above amendments and the following comments.


US Patent No. 6,050,029 (Simon et al. '029) is the related national phase patent resulting from PCT/DE97/03035, which claims priority from German '851. Simon et al. '029 may provide a better description for the Examiner's use.

With reference to Simon et al. '029, Figures 1 and column 4, lines 21 et seq. disclose that a window pane is connected at its lower edge to a profiled rail 8. According to column 4, lines 38 et seq., the followers 20 are connected on the other side to the window pane 7 by the profiled rail 8. In column 5, line 8 it is disclosed that there is provided an articulated connection to the window pane 7 with the follower 20 such that the follower 20 is able to swivel without the window pane 7 turning.

The presently claimed invention specifically recites that the two actuators are rigidly connected to each other by a substantially rigid connection. That arrangement is not found in the prior art, because US Patent 6,050,029 teaches an arrangement where an articulated connection between the followers 20 to the window pane 7 by profile rail 8.

In view of the above amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define the invention over the prior art of record and notice to that affect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe further discussion regarding the above claim language would expedite prosecution, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Fig. 1

corrected
+ be dotted
lines

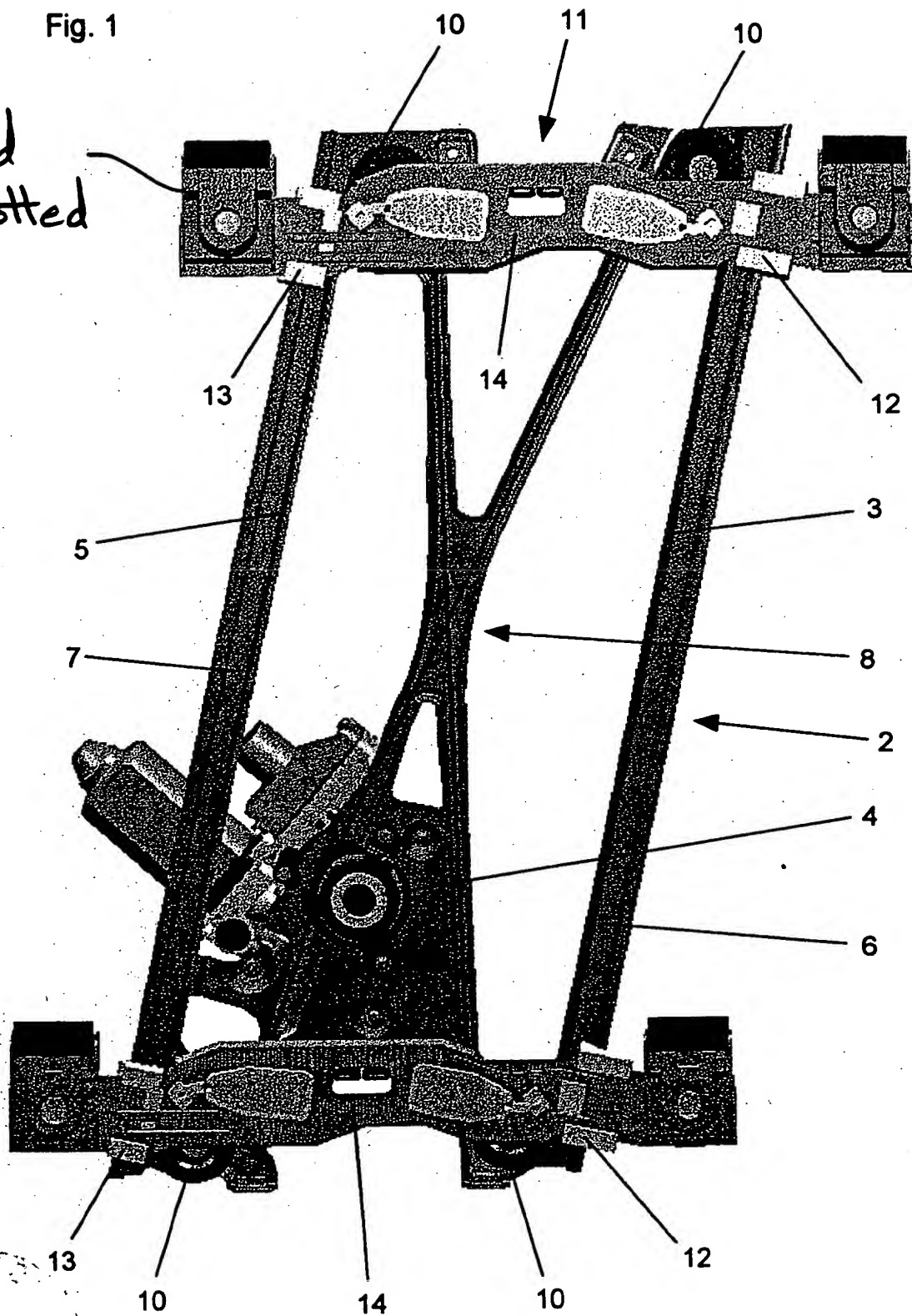


Fig. 2

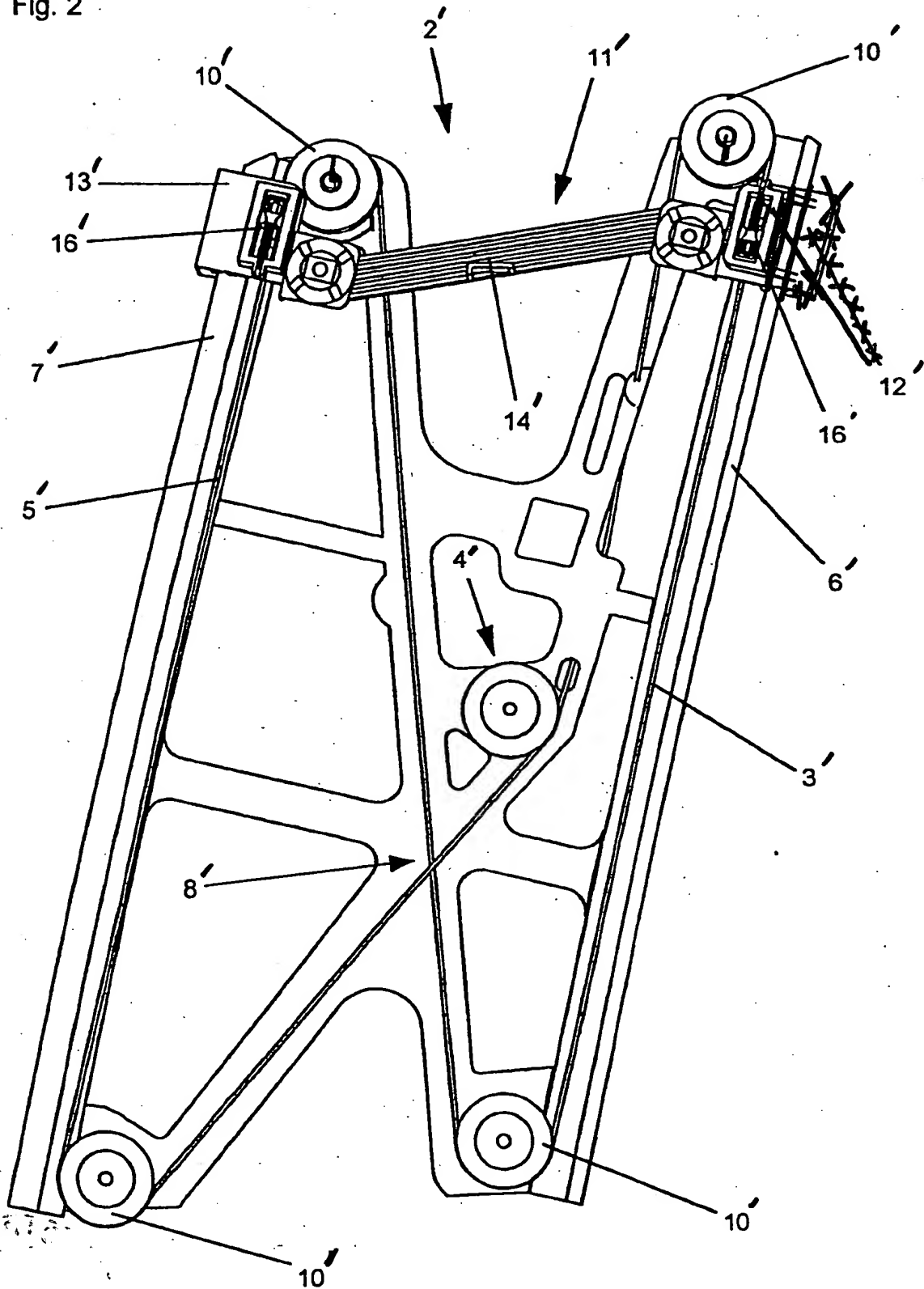


Fig. 3

